

PASSAIC RIVER  
THIRD QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT  
June 10, 2009

The Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) has completed its third quarter of the grant project under its contract with the US Environmental Protection Agency and has accomplished the tasks outlined for this time period.

We have produced two three-panel displays ready to be loaned out, featured in the Summer ANJEC Report, attached. They were displayed at the ANJEC workshops in May, along with fliers from various organizations in the Passaic watershed.

The Passaic River Institute (PRI) has posted the Passaic website at [www.passaicbasin.org](http://www.passaicbasin.org) with maps developed by PRI. The educational text and links for the web site are currently being reviewed and edited.

The Lower Passaic River Alliance Paddle was held on May 16. There were about 135 participants, and the weather held up. The Newark Fire Department started it off with their fireboat streaming water over the river, quite an event.

Future City is working on its survey for fishermen and fish advisory fliers. They have produced a 30-second spot on cablevision which will be aired the third week in June and are preparing fliers and information for the upcoming Ferry Street Festival.

ANJEC held two of three workshops scheduled for May. Approximately 20 people attended the workshop on May 4<sup>th</sup> in Newark. The presentations were excellent, although one speaker had trouble with the projector. We were fortunate to have the Hackensack Riverkeeper, Carol Johnston of the Ironbound Community Corp., Ron Hine of Fund for a Better Waterfront, Hoboken, and Damon Rich from the planning department in Newark.

ANJEC had to cancel its second Passaic workshop due to poor registration because the date selected presented too many conflicts with other spring events. We plan to reschedule with a different format. It is unfortunate, as all speakers are of very high quality and the subject matter seemed particularly relevant given the emphasis on New Jersey Highland's history and its importance to water supply.

The third workshop was held in Fairfield on May 27. Nineteen people attended the workshop including representatives from seven towns. Information about the workshop in the Bergen Record drew three people who had not registered attended, one a boy scout leader and another a resident. Richard Plambeck, former Mayor and current chair of the Groundwater Protection Committee gave an excellent presentation on groundwater resources and protection in the Passaic basin. Ella Filippone talked about the intricate, interconnected water supply functions of the Passaic. Abbie Fair gave a summary talk about the importance of stormwater management to the health of the Passaic River.

ANJEC is organizing materials for production of the Resource Guide on CD. It will include educational information from EPA and NJ DEP, outreach brochures commissions can edit and use, power point presentations from the workshops and links to programs in the watershed.